



USAID | MACEDONIA
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 28th, 2011

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PRESS RELEASE

School in Kolesino Village Becomes First Solar School in Macedonia

The American people helped create the very first solar school in Macedonia, one of the first in the Balkans, through the USAID Primary Education Project. In cooperation with Vidoe Podgorec Primary School and the Municipality of Novo Selo, USAID installed solar (photovoltaic) systems and also replaced school windows and doors. Previously, the school frequently lost its electrical supply, resulting in classes held with no lighting, the inability to use computers, and damage to electronic equipment due to voltage fluctuations.

"Vidoe Podgorec Primary School can now produce its own electrical energy by using stable and environmentally friendly electricity, totally independent from the public network," said Robert Wuertz, USAID Mission Director. "And Novo Selo is the very first municipality to establish an Education Fund that will use the savings generated by the solar system and re-invest them to improve education in the municipality."

The USAID Primary Education Project supports school renovations that create better learning environments and promote decentralization of school facilities to municipal governments. The project's main focus is to improve the quality of math and science education and increase the access and use of information technology in primary schools in Macedonia.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested **over \$500 million** in Macedonia since 1993. USAID is implementing projects that create jobs, reduce corruption, and prepare Macedonian students for the workforce. These initiatives improve the quality of life and support Macedonia's transition to a stable and prosperous democracy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>.